

MOTORIST INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The ADOT motorist information systems provide accurate, timely, and reliable information in order to provide for a safe and convenient environment. The principal systems currently used include the following:

Variable-Message Sign

- Primary technique for providing information to motorists.
- Capable of quickly change messages remotely.
- Fiber-optic signs used throughout the state furnished by a single vendor to facilitate operations and maintenance.
- All signs are alphanumeric character matrix with 18-inch-high character and three-line display.
- Signs are placed at the following locations: a) at intermediate locations based on volume-to-capacity ratio, accident rate, and diversion potential; b) in advance of freeway-to-freeway interchanges; c) at entrances to system; d) at approximately two-mile spacing in urban areas.

Highway Condition Reporting System (HCRS)

The HCRS is a unique, versatile, and powerful system, which has been developed by ADOT to provide accurate and reliable information on roadway conditions, incidents, special events, roadway closures, detours, traffic flow, and weather. The HCRS attributes are described below:

- Core software is written in C, C++, and Java.
- Central system resides on UNIX computer.
- Client system resides on PC.
- Browser- and Windows -based.
- Dynamic GIS-based graphics.
- Collected information resides in Sybase relational database.
- Communications take place via Internet, wide-area network, and dial-up.
- ITIS Codes are used to categorize information.
- HCRS retrieves weather forecast and advisory from the National Weather Service.
- HCRS server automatically feeds data to other systems such as the Internet and 511.

Internet

The ADOT TOC maintains the “az511.com” as its Web site to provide relevant and useful information on travel patterns, roadway conditions, incidents, and live camera images from roadways.

511 Telephone System

In March 2002, Arizona launched its statewide 511 System. This current system utilizes information from the Highway Conditions Reporting System (HCRS), which aggregates data from

multiple sources, including data gathered by the operators at the ADOT Traffic Operations Center. Arizona has successfully completed the important first steps in implementing a comprehensive 511 System. The 511 Model Deployment Initiative (MDI) will build upon Arizona's current systems for integrated data fusion (HCRS) and the Voice Remote Access System (VRAS).